

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A color ink-jet printer including a black-ink ejecting portion operable to eject droplets of a black ink, an other-color-ink ejecting portion operable to eject droplets of one of yellow, magenta and cyan inks, a first control portion operable to control the black-ink ejecting portion such that a total volume of at least one droplet of the ~~blank~~ black ink which forms each ~~blank~~ black ink dot is equal to a selected one of a plurality of different total volume values, and a second control portion operable to control the other-color-ink ejecting portion such that a total volume of at least one droplet of the ink of a color other than black, which forms each dot of that color, is equal to another of the different total volume values which is smaller than the value selected for the black ink. The first and second control portions are operable to select the respective different total volume values according to a presently selected print mode, or a gray-scale value at each picture element of an image to be printed.